GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1844
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2001
INSPECTION BY DGQA IN ORDNANCE FACTORY CHANDA
RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAG in their report No. 7 of 1999 observed that the General Manager, Ordnance Factory, Chanda rejected 1624 units of stabilizer of 125 mm ammunition between April 1992 and March 1993 out of 2709 units cleared by senior quality assurance establishment (Armament) Hastings as they failed in consistency proof and recovery proof;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been enquired into for carrying out faulty inspection of items by DGQA officials;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the action taken/proposed to be taken against the officials who did not carry out proper inspection of stabilizer units causing loss of Rs. 23.17 lakhs;

(d) whether the supplier who supplied the items replaced the defective stabilizer; and

(e) if not, the action taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (e): The CAG in their report 7 of 2000 had made some observations regarding rejection of 1624 stabilizers of 125mm ammunition by Ordnance Factory, Chanda. The stabilizer units offered by the firm were inspected on sampling basis by Senior Quality Assurance Establishment (Armament) Hastings, Kolkatta.The inspection by the Senior Quality Assurance Establishment (SQAE) include visual, dimensional, hardness, load test, and salt spray test and based on satisfactory test reports, the units were cleared. At the consignee end i.e. Ordnance Factory, Chanda, the stabilizers along with the shells are subjected to dynamic firing conditions which are not simulated during test at SQAE at Hastings.It was during such dynamic tests that the system fitted with the stabilizers failed. The entire quantity of 1624 stabilizers have subsequently been utilised by Ordnance Factories in dummy rounds and for proof purposes. There is no loss to the State. Testing procedures for the stabilizers as independent units have been improved since then.